

COAL CONTRACTORS OPPOSED TO AWARD

Baltimore Company Thinks
It Should Have Had
Contract.

Charging that they have been discriminated against by the War Department in the award of a big contract for coal to be used on the Panama Canal, the Merchants' Coal Company, of Baltimore, has filed a protest with Representatives Gill, Talbot, and Wolf, of Maryland.

In their letter to the Representatives the officials call attention to the statement that notwithstanding the fact that their bid for the contract for 200,000 tons of semi-bituminous coal was 27 cents a ton less than the bids submitted by nine other firms, the lowest bid was rejected.

In this connection the officials of the Merchants' Coal Company declare that E. A. Drake, the vice president of the Panama Railroad, for which the coal was bought, made the statement that "it never had been the intention to give the contract to any company outside the Pocahontas-New River District."

The contract was divided between the Berwind-White Coal Mining Company and Caster, Curran & Bullitt at \$2.50 per ton. At the same time the Chesapeake and Ohio Coal Company was awarded a contract to furnish 40,000 tons provisionally upon the further needs of the railroad.

The terms of the contract called for coal which would be equal in grade to the product of Pocahontas or New River regions. The nine firms which submitted a like price were figuring on New River or Pocahontas coal, while the Merchants' Coal Company was offering Grandin coal, which, they claim, is in every way equal to the two other brands.

The price made by the nine companies was \$2.50 per ton, while that of the Baltimore concern was \$2.23. The Merchants' Company charges that by making the bid for the contract the government is taking on an unnecessary expense of \$57,200, and they ask their Representatives in Congress to enter protest.

WILL ACCOMPANY TAFT ON TRIP TO PANAMA

Announcement was made at the White House yesterday that Secretary Taft will be accompanied on his trip to the Isthmus of Panama by James B. Reynolds and Samuel B. Donnelly, who were recently appointed by the President to investigate labor conditions on the Isthmus of Panama.

SEEKS PRESERVATION OF BOUNDARY STONES

The matter of preserving the boundary stones between the District of Columbia, and Maryland and Virginia again has been called to the attention of the Commissioners by Fred E. Woodward.

Mr. Woodward suggests obtaining from Congress a sufficient appropriation to protect these historical stones, which he says are fast being destroyed by vandals. An investigation of the cost of the work last year showed that it would amount to about \$4,000.

Complaint Against Schools Is Nothing New to District

History is repeating itself in the agitation regarding fire protection in the schools, according to H. L. Gregory, local heating and ventilating engineer, who has preserved for twenty-six years the report of a commission appointed by Congress in 1882 to investigate the schools.

Even at that early date, judging by the report, there was complaint at the insufficiency of ventilation, the lack of adequate funds for repairs, and inadequate amounts for new buildings.

"The commission is of the opinion that the control of and responsibility for the erection, repairs, and care of public school buildings should be vested in the school board by the Commissioners of the District," is stated. The report, however, recommends that no extensive repairs should be made or new buildings erected unless approved by a "board representing the best and most recent knowledge in sanitary science, in pedagogy, and architecture."

It is suggested that the President appoint this board from the various departmental rolls.

"It is the opinion of the Commission that the amounts heretofore allowed for repairs in the schools have been economically used, but that they have been insufficient to meet the current wants," sounds familiar to the reading public twenty-six years later.

None Were Fireproof.

"Only a portion of the buildings owned by the District and none of the rented buildings are fireproof," continues the report. "Where the height of two stories is exceeded, there should be the most ample provision possible. Five of the

buildings rented have schools in the third floor—the Riggs, Lee, Miller, Luca, and Miner. In none of them did I find any provision for escape except the stairway, and in every instance should a fire occur in the main hall all escape would be cut off."

The buildings then are taken up in detail and their various insufficiencies pointed out. Although the percentage of rented buildings was larger at that time than now, the report carries unusual significance, in the view of similar investigations being made at the present time, when it says:

"The following points are worthy of serious consideration:

"The general unsuitableness of the buildings for the purpose.

"The unsystematic gradation of rents.

"The almost total disregard to facilities for ventilation.

"The utter neglect to provide for escape in case of fire."

Recalls Old Agitation.

Mr. Gregory recalls the agitation of 1882 as being quite as feverish as that now in progress, the results accomplished being entirely out of keeping with the great needs at that time. The Board of Education has recalled that another agitation occurred in 1904, following the fire at the school, when many of the buildings were condemned in unmeasured terms by Superintendent Stuart.

Nevertheless, the failures of twenty-six and four years ago have been of very little actual benefit to local school conditions, as a resume of the 1882 report shows practically the same objections existing a quarter of a century ago as now.

NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE WILL GIVE FESTIVAL TO HOLD CELEBRATION AT THE FIFTH BAPTIST

Active preparations are being made at the Neighborhood House for the annual spring festival, which will be given April 30, and May 1, 2 and 3. All the occupants of the Neighborhood House settlement are busily engaged making costumes for the various plays which are to be given and making numerous articles which will be placed on sale.

Among the various plays and tableaux to be given are a tableau representing the dreams of Capt. John Smith; a Japanese play called "The Mirror of Matsuyama," "Alice in Wonderland," "Mother Goose in Dreamland," and an original play called "The Garden of Little Old Dear."

Hundreds of people who are at work assisting Miss Clara J. Van Trump to make the festival a success feel certain that the program this year will be fully as interesting as it was a year ago.

ENTERPRISE.

A Bladensburg merchant was dozing in his store one day when a little girl with a pitcher appeared in his doorway and asked for a quart of molasses. The storekeeper yawned, stretched himself, half opened his eyes, and then, in an injured tone, said, "Ain't there nobody in Bladensburg that sells molasses but me?"—Success Magazine.

The Willing Workers, a society of young ladies connected with the Fifth Baptist Sunday School, will hold their eighth anniversary in the church auditorium, E street, near Seventh south-west, this evening. An attractive program of Easter music will be rendered, which will include the following numbers:

Anthem, "Forth to the Cross."
Duet and chorus, "The Glorious Dawning." Mrs. Virginia Thompson, Miss E. Pearl Grigsby, and the chorus.

Chorus, "Our Mighty Victor."
Chorus, "The Risen Lord."
Solo, "Hosanna," Miss Mabel Benzler.

Chorus, "O Tell Us, Where Is He?"
The address of the evening will be made by the Rev. H. R. Myers, pastor of the Riverside Baptist Church, of Baltimore. His subject will be "The Quest of the World."

The society is aiding in the support of the Rev. George Green, M. D., missionary of the Sunday school in Africa, and the offering will be for that purpose. Dr. Green is a physician and surgeon, and has accomplished much for the physical as well as the moral well-being of the natives.

Large Variety of Cut Flowers.

Reasonable prices. Shaffer, 14th & I—Adv.

TO CELEBRATE FOR MISSION



CHARLES N. CRITTENTON,
Head of the Mission Which Observes
Twenty-fifth Anniversary Today.

Churches Will Aid Florence Crittenton Organization.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the National Florence Crittenton Mission will be formally celebrated today, when special services will be held in various local churches.

Charles N. Crittenton, president and founder of the work, will deliver an address in the Ninth Street Christian Church at the 11 o'clock service. He will preside at a special service at 3 o'clock this afternoon in the First Congregational Church. At this service

Robert Downing, the former actor, will make an address, in which he will interpolate the scene from "Virginia," in which Virginia stabs his daughter. Mr. Downing will speak on the matinee girl. Mrs. Kate Waller Barrett and the Rev. Dr. Bulla, of Alexandria, will be the other speakers. Mr. Crittenton will deliver an address tonight in McKendree Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mrs. Barrett will speak in the Rhode Island Avenue Methodist Protestant Church.

At 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon the delegates and invited guests will assemble at the Riggs House and go in a body to the White House, where, at 2:30, the President will receive them and deliver an address.

From 4 until 6 and from 8 to 10 o'clock a public reception will be held at the Training School, 213 Third street northwest, and at the home, 307 C street northwest, to which the public is invited.

The tenth commencement of the Florence Crittenton Training School will be held Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock in the Training School.

Flowers for Funerals.

Guide's designs are always in good taste and his flowers are best. 1214 F—Adv.

Says Girls' Night Visitor Was Not Bent on Robbery

"The man who was discovered early yesterday morning in the room occupied by Miss Holmes and Miss Schmidt was not a burglar. He entered the house with the intention of chloroforming both girls. To my mind it is clear that he had no intention of robbing the house."

Such was the statement made last night by one of the policemen who have been endeavoring to get some trace of the midnight marauder who forcibly entered the room occupied by Miss Leola Holmes and Miss Mabel Schmidt, of the third floor of the lodging house at 1412 Q street northwest. Up to a late hour last night the police had failed to learn anything that would throw additional light on the unusual circumstances of the case.

Bicycle Policeman "Paddy" Holmes, a brother of Miss Holmes, who was shot through the right arm by Charles C. Diouonne, of 1417 Q street, while climbing over the latter's roof during the search for the marauder, was suffering considerable pain from his injury last night. The wound is not regarded as serious, and unless complications set in, the policeman will be able to return to duty in a few days.

Diouonne Under Bail.

Diouonne is out on \$500 bail, and it is probable that he will be called upon to answer to a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon. Assistant District Attorney Given, who examined several witnesses yesterday, said that while Diouonne contends that he was acting within his rights in shooting at a man on his roof, he believes it is a question that the court should settle. Holmes claims that Diouonne fired two shots at

him, at first and two more after he had thrown his police whistle.

Holmes and Miss Schmidt had been to the theater Friday night. After leaving Miss Schmidt at the door of the Q street house, Holmes went to his home, 1333 Corcoran street. About 1:45 o'clock he was aroused by a boarder from the Q street house, who told him that his sister had been attacked by a burglar and wanted him to come to her room immediately.

He dressed hurriedly and ran to the house. Miss Schmidt and Miss Holmes were both suffering from nervous shock. Miss Holmes told her brother that she had been aroused by something waving in front of her face, and sitting up in bed, beheld the figure of a man. She screamed, and the intruder deliberately walked around the foot of the bed and stepped through the window out on the roof.

Duel on Housetops.

Holmes climbed out on the roof and began a search for the man, when he was startled by two shots. The bullets whizzed past his head. Thinking that it was the man who had been in his sister's room, Holmes blew his police whistle to summon assistance, and was prepared to close in on the man when there were two more shots, one of the bullets piercing the fleshy part of his upper forearm. Holmes fired and the man disappeared beneath the ledge.

This man was Diouonne.

What is regarded by the police as the most mysterious phase of the case is the fact that the police failed to find any means by which the man who was in the room occupied by the two girls could have reached the street without going through the house.

DOUBT THE VERDICT OF DEPLETED JURY

Is a verdict of a jury of less than twelve men valid in a criminal case, even where both the defendant and the prosecution consent to a reduction?

That question will be brought before the Supreme Court of the United States tomorrow by the Department of Justice in a case that it is desired to have that court review.

The Federal courts in Massachusetts have held that there is a constitutional inhibition of this power. It so held in the case of John W. Dickinson, of Massachusetts, sentenced to nine years in jail for violating the banking laws in connection with a deposit in the South Danvers National Bank.

When the lowest court ordered a new trial, because the trial jury finally was reduced by sickness to five men, the United States prepared an appeal to the Supreme Court.

DEER EAT SCARECROW.

WINSTED, Conn., April 25.—Deer had been making themselves so obnoxious on the farm of Peter Wilson, in Hadam, that he erected scarecrows to keep them off of his gardens and orchards. The result was satisfactory for a few days only, as the animals finally ate the hay stuffing out of the scarecrows.

SECOND CENTURY NEAR IN NEW "400 CLUB"

Now that the hundred mark in membership in Washington's "400 Club" has been passed, and the second century mark is rapidly being approached, the officials of the Associated Charities are more than pleased with the outlook. The second hundred members are rapidly applying with their much-needed gold eagles, which will be used to fight consumption and keep the poor and their families in food and fuel.

Miss Ida Green, who is in charge of the plan, said last night that she feels deeply grateful for the generous manner in which the people of Washington have always come to the front to aid the Associated Charities in any undertaking which needed the financial as well as the moral support of the community. The manner in which they are helping out in the present plan is typical, and she feels certain that the 300 mark will have been reached by the last of the ensuing week.

HE WAS.

"Young man, I hope you are putting away something for the future?"
"You bet I am; I've used two pounds of moth balls."—Exchange.

CIRCUS CHAPERONS HAVE JOYOUS JOB

Don't Hesitate to Answer
Question—That's
the Fun.

According to one who has "taken the chaperon" to more circuses than the average chaperon, there is more genuine information picked up in the menagerie of a large show than in an encyclopedia, provided, of course, that one doesn't hesitate to answer questions.

For instance, the majority of the adults who visit the circus, as well as the children, are ignorant of the fact that the giraffe can utter no sound; that the male ostrich sits on the eggs; that the cumbersome elephant can feel the bite of a fly. Still more remarkable is the statement that a hippopotamus eats less than a dog. It has never occurred to many that the kangaroo while hopping about the country, carries its young in a pouch or that most beautiful lace is made from the hair of the yak.

After this tip, it is expected that the keepers in the Barnum & Bailey Great-est Show on Earth, coming to Washington May 4 and 5, will answer more questions on this visit than ever before. The Barnum & Bailey menagerie contains practically everything that goes to make up a zoological garden, and each and every animal has its own object lesson.

Aside from the interesting individual animals, there are a number of groups that excite much curiosity. Mouster's clown animals, a company of trained horses; Prof. Wormwood's educated anteaters; three new herds of trained elephants, clown dogs and monkeys of the Menestines; and other startling acts will be offered.

G. P. O. MEDICAL DIRECTOR WINS WORLD WIDE CONTEST

Dr. William J. Manning, the medical director at the Government Printing Office, is receiving the congratulations of his friends over having won the prize offered by a German institute for the best essay on the health conditions of working people. Dr. Manning's subject was "Plumbism, or Lead Poisoning in Printing Offices." Yesterday he received a substantial check from the Institut für Gemeinwohl at Frankfurt-on-the-Main.

HIS GUESS.

"And who are those men in pleated caps?" inquired the girl who was making her first visit aboard ship. "They, I presume, are the chorus," answered her companion, whose knowledge of nautical matters was also rather vague.—Exchange.

\$1.25 to Baltimore and Return

Today via Baltimore & Ohio R. R.—Adv.

Dress shields LIGHTWEIGHT Dress Shields, made by the Darrington Co. to sell at 15c, 18c, and 20c a pair. Sale price, three pairs for 25c	Hooks and eyes SAFETY Hooks and Eyes, regularly 3c a card. Box of six cards, or one gross, for 5c	Needles SMITH'S blue paper Needles, regularly 3c a paper. Special, 2c	S. KANN & SONS & CO. 8th St. & Pa. Ave. THE BUSY CORNER		Sewing silk SALTER'S Sewing Silk, 100-yard spools, black and colors, regularly 9c a spool. Special, 6c	Spool cotton BASTING COTTON, 500-yard spools, regularly 5c a spool. Special, 5 spools 10c	Skirt braid MERCERIZED Skirt Braid, 5-yard piece, in black or colors, regularly 10c a piece. Sale price, 5c
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Big purchase of black and white summer silks

Summer silks are "it" now. Last week several makers who felt that warm weather would not come soon enough to create a demand for summer silks, sacrificed several lots to us at a substantial saving in price. These go on sale tomorrow, and if you are bargain wise we'll count you among the buyers!

Oriental black summer silks that are spot, dust, perspiration, and water-proof—guaranteed	
24 inches wide, regularly 39c yard, for	33c
27 inches wide, regularly 50c yard, for	39c
27 inches wide, regularly 69c yard, for	49c
27 inches wide, regularly 75c yard, for	59c
36 inches wide, regularly \$1 yard, for	75c

Oriental white habutais—will launder perfectly	
22 inches wide, regularly 29c yard, for	19c
24 inches wide, regularly 50c yard, for	33c
27 inches wide, regularly 50c yard, for	39c
27 inches wide, regularly 59c yard, for	49c
36 inches wide, regularly 75c yard, for	59c
36 inches wide, regularly \$1 yard, for	75c

35c Jap and China matting's 25 cents yard

An introductory price to acquaint you with the best and largest display of matting in Washington. That we quote lowest prices is evidenced by this item.

The Japanese Jointless Matting is in plain white with inlaid figures or carpet patterns; all reversible designs. The China Matting is seamless; best 95 and 110-lb. quality, reversible patterns, in checked, striped, and plain white.

2c Heavy seamless China Matting, in a variety of patterns. Sale price, a yard.	15c
CHINA MATTING, fine palm-leaf straw, seamless, with extra heavy corded selvage. In large block and check patterns; regular price 25c, 20c rolls to sell special, a yard.	19c
SEAMLESS CHINA MATTING, 110-warp; patterns are small pin checks, circles and blocks. In good strong colors, 100 rolls and choice of any of the lot, a yard.	29c
JAPANESE COTTON WARP MATTINGS, jointless, and in carpet patterns, corded wire selvage, colors are blue, red, or green; regularly 25c a yard. Special, 19c.	19c
MATTING RUGS of cotton warp Japanese matting, size 36x72, stenciled designs of flowers, and Oriental designs, full 180-warp quality. Special Monday, 49c each.	49c

Third Floor—Enlarged Upholstery Department.

Tomorrow only, this
Settee \$1.69
42 inches long and 16 1/2" flat

You'll be wishing for one this evening when you either have to perch on the doorstep or drag out a chair. If you want to enjoy the outdoor air, Settee Frames are painted green, and the slats finished in hard oil. Exceptionally fine lines of lawn furniture shown on our new fourth floor at marvelously low prices.

\$1.00 DRESS NETS, 59c yd.

For summer evening dresses, or for waists—you wouldn't want any better net than this we offer tomorrow at 59c a yard. 45 inches wide; white and ecru, dotted and figured effects; regular and 59c filet meshes. Tomorrow, a yard.

"Good things" in laces and embroideries

VENICE AND FILET BANDINGS in white, butter, and ecru at these bargain prices: 2 to 3-in. wide; worth up to 5c yard at 25c 2 1/2 to 4-in. wide; worth up to 8c yard at 39c CLUNY LACES, including edgings and insertings in white or ecru; many patterns, at choice, a yard..... 6c DRESS NETS, all silk and in ring, bird's eye and solid dot effects in black, brown, or navy. Special, a yard..... 69c	TORCHON LACES AND INSERTINGS, complete match sets, 1 to 3-in. wide. Worth up to 15c a yard. Choice at..... 25c SHIRT WAIST FRONTINGS—no two pieces alike; exquisite new designs; worth up to \$2.50 a yard. 98c choice..... 98c DEMI FLOUNCING, 18-in. wide; on swiss, also with heading in showy and fast effects. Special, a yard..... 39c SWISS INSERTINGS—many patterns; top strip slightly soiled. 18c and 20c kinds, at a yard..... 11c First Floor—S. Kann, Sons & Co.
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40c yard-wide linen suiting, 28c Special for tomorrow. Medium weight bleached pure linen suiting, 36 inches wide, and a regular 40c value, at much less than usual. Fashion advisers say that linens are ideal for the semiformal frock, and that the smartest models are made up of the new prince lines, elaborately trimmed in the new white soutache and filet trimmings. Women will, more than ever, decide to have one or more white linen suits in the summer wardrobe. This medium weight linen is just what you need for the new fashions.	\$3.98 oil cook stoves special at \$2.79 Oil Cook Stoves are very economical to use. Also splendid for suburbanites. With them you can cook more comfortably, too. No danger of these Brightest and Best Blue-Flame Oil Cook Stoves ever exploding either. The size we offer tomorrow at \$2.79 has 2-burners and is positively odorless. Our broad guarantee goes with every one sold. Order Oil Cook Stoves at \$3.98 to \$7.98. Third Floor—Housefurnishing Dept.	Fast black 50c silk batiste at 25c a yd. All with the desired chiffon finish. Best Nubian Black dye. May be laundered. Just enough cotton with the Japanese silk to give great strength. It's brilliancy is due to the large amount of silk and it is permanent. This silk batiste is full 27 inches wide. It cannot be duplicated in any store under 50c a yard. A much wanted material for summer dresses, and waists, and at 25c too rare a bargain and too big a value to miss a chance of getting—SO COME EARLY—1st floor, Bargain Tables.	\$2 to \$3 lingerie waists, \$1.00 All have embroidery fronts, and there are more than 50 designs to choose from in blind and open work patterns. Body of waist made of superior quality White Persian Lawn, with tucked back, tucked stock and cuffs. Stock and cuffs are trimmed with lace edge; three-quarter length sleeves. Hot weather is a certainty now, and you'll enjoy looking well and comfortably dressed in a white waist such as this. All sizes. Choice of any at a dollar. Second Floor—Waist Section.	12 1/2c to 15c underwear muslin, 8 1/2c Only a limited quantity, and we cannot take any mail, phone, or C. O. D. orders for this reason. The lot contains leading brands of Elsie's Cottons of the following kinds: Fruit Hill Androscooggin and other standard brands. A yard Monday, 8 1/2c. Domestic—D. St. Annex—First Floor.
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